

# SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: MCAMLIS Steering Committee

FROM: Kurt W. Bauer, PE, RLS, AICP  
Milwaukee County Surveyor

DATE: February 1, 2005

SUBJECT: MILWAUKEE COUNTY SURVEYOR ACTIVITIES—2004

This memorandum is intended to provide the MCAMLIS Steering Committee with a report on the work of the Milwaukee County Surveyor through December 2004. While the office and duties and functions of the County Surveyor are prescribed by Section 59.45 of the *Wisconsin Statutes*, in Milwaukee County the necessary work, pursuant to the direction of the County Board, is funded by document recording fees retained by the County pursuant to Section 59.43(2) of the *Wisconsin Statutes*. Since the MCAMLIS Steering Committee is charged by contract between Milwaukee County and the public and private utilities operating within the County with administering these retained recording fees, a report to the Committee on the activities of the County Surveyor is in order.

Within Milwaukee County, the U.S. Public Land Survey System has been combined with the State Plane Coordinate system and the National Geodetic Vertical Control System to provide the high order horizontal and vertical control survey network required for the preparation and maintenance of the MCAMLIS large-scale topographic and cadastral maps. Therefore, the work of the Milwaukee County Surveyor entails not only the maintenance of the U.S. Public Land Survey System as such, but also the maintenance of the MCAMLIS horizontal and vertical control survey network. As such, the work requires expertise in geodetic as well as plane surveying and in the legal aspects of property boundary determination.

Attachment 1 to this memorandum consists of a map of Milwaukee County on which are shown the location of all of the corners of the U.S. Public Land Survey System for which various types of perpetuation activities were undertaken in the calendar year 2004. These activities involved the replacement of section, quarter section, witness and meander corners which were reported as damaged, disturbed or destroyed by construction, or other activities or actions. The work involved the setting of new monuments, and, as necessary, the replacement of attendant witness marks and benchmarks. New records of U.S. Public Land Survey control station records—dossier sheets—were prepared for each corner concerned.

A copy of each of the new dossier sheets is provided in Attachment 2 to this memorandum. As indicated on Attachment 1, a total of 67 U.S. Public Land Survey corners were involved in the perpetuation activity from January 1, 2004, through December 31, 2004. In some cases, the perpetuation activity resulted in the determination of revised State Plane coordinate values for the corners and revised elevations for both the corners and the attendant benchmarks. In such cases, new control survey summary diagrams were prepared. A copy of each of the revised diagrams concerned is herewith provided as Attachment 3.

Pursuant to State Statutes, Registered Land Surveyors must provide to the County Surveyor for filing copies of all plats of surveys other than land subdivision plats and certified survey maps prepared for surveys conducted within the County. Through December 31, 2004, the County Surveyor received, indexed, and filed 1,524 records of land surveys completed within the County, bringing the total number of records of land surveys completed within the County, which have been filed with the County Surveyor since the inception of this work in 1984, to 38,764. The filed records are indexed to permit retrieval by name of the surveyor concerned, the property owner concerned, the date of the survey plat, the civil division, and the U.S. Public Land Survey one-quarter section within which the plat is located.

The County Surveyor also assists MCAMLIS in the preparation of contracts and specifications for large scale topographic and cadastral mapping and for special projects, such as the mapping of hazards to air navigation in the vicinity of General Mitchell International Airport.

KWB/nn

#103512 v1 - SURVEYOR REPORT TO MCAMLIS

Attachments

# Attachment 1

## SUMMARY OF U.S. PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM CORNER AND CONTROL SURVEY PERPETUATION IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY: JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 2004

● U.S. PUBLIC LAND SURVEY CORNERS  
WHICH WERE REMONUMENTED AND/OR  
REFERENCED IN 2004 (67)

